

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1 1. A modular walk-through metal detector comprising:
2 a plurality of separate sensor panels electrically coupled to each other
3 and arranged one above the other along two separate sides to form two side walls; and
4 at least one top cross-member that engages each side wall.
- 1 2. A metal detector in accordance with claim 1 wherein each sensor panel
2 is interchangeable.
- 1 3. A metal detector in accordance with claim 1 wherein the sensor panels
2 may be stored in the top cross member when the metal detector is disassembled.
- 1 4. A metal detector in accordance with claim 1 wherein the metal detector
2 comprises six sensor panels, each side wall comprising three sensor panels.
- 1 5. A metal detector in accordance with claim 1 wherein each sensor panel
2 comprises windowed areas.
- 1 6. A metal detector in accordance with claim 5 wherein each sensor panel
2 comprises a weather-proof construction.
- 1 7. A metal detector in accordance with claim 1 wherein the metal detector
2 further comprises at least one base member coupled to the side walls.
- 1 8. A modular walk-through metal detector comprising:
2 a base comprising at least two base members;
3 at least four separate and interchangeable sensor panels electrically
4 coupled to each other and arranged above the at least two base members to form two side
5 walls, a bottom sensor panel of each side wall being adjacent a corresponding one of the at
6 least two base members; and
7 a top cross-member that engages each side wall.
- 1 9. A metal detector in accordance with claim 8 wherein each sensor panel
2 comprises windowed areas.
- 1 10. A metal detector in accordance with claim 9 wherein each sensor panel
2 comprises a weather-proof construction.
- 1 11. A metal detector in accordance with claim 8 wherein the sensor panels
2 may be stored in the top cross-member.
- 1 12. A method of detecting metal, the method comprising:
2 providing a plurality of sensor panels;

3 providing a base comprising at least one base member;
4 providing a top cross member;
5 assembling two side walls each comprising at least two sensor panels
6 such that the sensor panels are in electrical communication;
7 coupling the side walls to the base;
8 coupling the side walls to the top cross member to provide an
9 assembled modular metal detector;
10 providing power to the metal detector; and
11 passing an object to be scanned through the metal detector.

1 13. A method in accordance with claim 12 wherein the power is provided
2 via at least one battery.

1 14. A method in accordance with claim 12 wherein the sensor panels are
2 provided stored in the top cross member.

1 15. A method in accordance with claim 12 wherein the power is provided
2 with a solar power system.

1 16. A modular walk-through metal detector comprising:
2 a base comprising at least one base member;
3 a plurality of separate sensor panels electrically coupled to each other
4 and arranged above the at least one base member to form two side walls, a bottom sensor
5 panel of each side wall being adjacent the at least one base member; and
6 a top cross-member that engages each side wall.

1 17. A metal detector in accordance with claim 16 wherein each sensor
2 panel is interchangeable.

1 18. A metal detector in accordance with claim 16 wherein the base
2 comprises at least two base members.

1 19. A metal detector in accordance with claim 16 wherein the metal
2 detector comprises six sensor panels, each side wall comprising three sensor panels.

1 20. A metal detector in accordance with claim 16 wherein each sensor
2 panel comprises windowed areas.

1 21. A metal detector in accordance with claim 20 wherein each sensor
2 panel comprises a weather-proof construction.

1 22. A metal detector in accordance with claim 16 wherein the sensor
2 panels may be stored in the top cross-member and the top cross member includes at least one
3 handle and at least two wheels.